

# LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG SAN DIEGO COUNTY RESIDENTS, 2002-2004

Rank, Number and Percent of Deaths, and Age-adjusted Rates

RANK in 2004 <sup>a</sup>	RANK in 2003 <sup>a</sup>	CAUSE OF DEATH <sup>b</sup>	NUMBER AND PERCENT OF DEATHS						2002-2004		AGE-ADJUSTED RATES <sup>c</sup>		
			2002		2003		2004		2002-2004		2002	2003	2004
			n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%			
1	1	Diseases of heart	5,314	27.5	5,404	27.2	5,228	26.5	15,946	27.1	203.5	200.0	187.2
2	2	Cancer (any)	4,584	23.7	4,715	23.7	4,631	23.5	13,930	23.6	175.7	176.4	168.9
3	3	Cerebrovascular diseases	1,459	7.5	1,521	7.7	1,423	7.2	4,403	7.5	55.7	56.3	50.8
4	5	Alzheimer's disease	909	4.7	1,004	5.1	1,106	5.6	3,019	5.1	34.6	36.9	39.0
5	4	COPD/Chronic lower respiratory diseases	1,006	5.2	1,067	5.4	1,066	5.4	3,139	5.3	38.6	39.8	39.0
6	6	Unintentional injuries	790	4.1	807	4.1	863	4.4	2,460	4.2	27.6	27.7	28.8
7	8	Diabetes mellitus	475	2.5	499	2.5	531	2.7	1,505	2.6	18.2	18.6	19.4
8	7	Influenza & pneumonia	585	3.0	579	2.9	477	2.4	1,641	2.8	22.3	21.3	16.9
9	9	Suicide	308	1.6	326	1.6	311	1.6	945	1.6	10.8	11.2	10.5
10	11	Essential (primary) hypertension & hypertensive renal disease	220	1.1	227	1.1	262	1.3	709	1.2	8.4	8.3	9.3
11	12	Parkinson's disease	174	0.9	206	1.0	258	1.3	638	1.1	6.6	7.6	9.3
12	10	Chronic liver disease & cirrhosis	296	1.5	296	1.5	247	1.3	839	1.4	11.2	10.8	8.8
13	13	Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome & nephrosis	124	0.6	149	0.8	185	0.9	458	0.8	4.7	5.6	6.6
14	14	Homicide	96	0.5	136	0.7	138	0.7	370	0.6	3.2	4.3	4.3
15	19	HIV	131	0.7	102	0.5	131	0.7	364	0.6	4.6	3.6	4.5
		All Other Causes	2,885	14.9	2,826	14.2	2,844	14.4	8,555	14.5			
		<b>TOTAL DEATHS:</b>	<b>19,356</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>19,864</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>19,701</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>58,921</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>733.6</b>	<b>731.2</b>	<b>703.2</b>

<sup>a</sup> Rank is based on total number of deaths in each of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) "rankable" categories.

The top 15 leading causes of death presented here are based on the county-wide rank among San Diego residents in 2004.

<sup>b</sup> Underlying cause of death.

<sup>c</sup> All rates are per 100,000 population and are adjusted to 2000 Standard U.S. Population.

Source: California Department of Health Services, Death Statistical Master Files; SANDAG January 1 population estimates

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